

THE Pacific Commercial Advertiser

A MORNING PAPER.

WALTER G. SMITH EDITOR

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TIME TO STAND FIRM.

If the hui of agitators is allowed to have its way, there can be no peace with Oriental field labor for years to come. The success of one demand will lead to others until all the trades-union methods employed on the mainland come into vogue here and plantations will never be quite sure whether they are run by their owners or by walking delegates.

It should be kept in mind that the strike now under way did not begin among the laborers themselves. They have been going along happily, living contentedly and getting better wages than they ever had dreamed of at home. The rise in the cost of living, despite what their leaders say, has not materially affected them. Their rice and fish, their clothing and the like are not appreciably higher in price than they were five years ago. These people are doing well and they know it. But the half-dozen agitators here in Hawaii have not been doing well. No planter has offered to buy them off; nobody has asked them to change coats for pay; most of their attempts to boggle the labor situation have been futile; even their incendiary drama has been suppressed. Now they are making one last play for leadership and coin. If they can prolong the strike at Aiea and get Waipahu laborers to pay for it, they of the hui handling the funds, they will become masters of the situation. There will be flush times and fine raiment and the establishment of a labor oligarchy.

Unless the planters are prepared to surrender control of the wage-question they will yield nothing to the striking syndicate and will redouble their efforts to defeat it. These laborers at Aiea would never have struck save for incitement from Honolulu; they are on the most friendly terms now with Manager Ross. If they can get more pay, they will be pleased; if not, they will not quit Hawaii nor lose their peace of mind. As soon as they find out that there is nothing in the strike for them but loss of employment, the end of the Makino-Negoro speculation will be in sight.

It is a pity to lose what is ready for grinding; it is disheartening to lose profits; but better that than to lose control of the plantation business and have to take orders from a greedy and conscienceless junta of demagogues.

The hot-weather fake about Kuhio displacing Governor Frear, which the Advertiser has before referred to, is disposed of by the Delegate with a laugh and the remark that it is news to him. The vogue of the story shows how susceptible Honolulu is to the wiles of the practical joker. The town, with all the politics it has gone through, ought to be shrewder than it is in differentiating probabilities of State from exhibitions of curbstone humor.

As Delegate Kuhio has no vote in Congress, his absence from the tariff battle need not be severely criticized. Whatever work in committees may be needed for the pineapple tariff will not be neglected by his secretary.

There is no loss without some gain. Opium smuggling is costing Uncle Sam a bit in tariff tolls, but it is bound to give Hawaii that long-expected revenue cutter.

Mr. Roosevelt once ran for Mayor of New York and was defeated. If he again enters the hunting ground of politics, it will be in quest of bigger game.

Dr. Hobdy's return to Honolulu will, we trust, be as agreeable to him as it is to the community.

Smooth Mr. Trenor.

HAWAIIAN INTERESTS

(Continued From Page One.)

It is known authoritatively that Mr. Woodruff did not ask for the place. He had previously been offered a Federal judgeship in Alaska paying a salary of \$1500 more than the Hawaiian judgeship. He declined that office and was intending to take up the practice of law in this city. The conditions in the islands, coupled with his extensive acquaintance there, were more attractive to him, and he informed the Attorney-General that he would accept the position.

Mr. Woodruff is by birth a Pennsylvanian, forty-five years old, a graduate of Yale in the class of 1889, and from the law school of the University of Pennsylvania in the class of 1895. He practiced law in Philadelphia until he entered the government service as a law officer of the Forest Service in 1903. From that place he went to the Department of the Interior as Assistant Attorney-General in 1907, where he was one of Secretary Garfield's principal assistants in the reorganization of that department. During the last few years he was frequently given by President Roosevelt special and important matters of work, outside his immediate official jurisdiction. Although Mr. Woodruff graduated near the head of his class, he had the unprecedented distinction of being a member of four varsity crews and football teams at Yale. He was captain of the Yale crew in 1889. He had the still more unusual experience of never losing a race and of having been defeated in only one football game. He was a member of the Psi Upsilon, Phi Beta Kappa, Skull and Bones societies.

Taft and Hawaii.

Hawaiian people here, who have opportunities for knowing something about the President's attitude toward the islands, are not disposed to regard him as at all hostile. Circumstances, more or less of a political character, have influenced him in the matter of District Attorney Breckons and of the nomination of an additional judge.

The President has a big problem on his hands to secure certain legislation for the Philippines. He is understood to desire the cooperation of Senator Warren of Wyoming in that work. Senator Warren is chairman of the Military Affairs Committee in the Senate. In that capacity he can do much to help or hinder the President in his program of army legislation and administration. Mr. Warren is also one of the older men in the Senate service and has no small influence there. He has been to the Philippines, in fact was a member of the famous Taft party, and can speak from personal knowledge of Philippine affairs.

Breckons and Woodruff.

The reinstatement of District Attorney Breckons is, therefore, to be looked upon, from the President's standpoint, as a matter of political expediency. Senator Warren has long been his special champion and quite naturally, as the District Attorney's brother, Joseph Breckons, has been his clerk and confidential man for many years. The latter is very competent, and the Senator is much attached to him.

Of course, the case of the late Judge

Estee was used as a precedent for the nomination of Mr. Woodruff as judge. But the President undoubtedly felt under some obligations to ex-Secretary Garfield, who comes from Ohio and who was an ardent supporter of President Taft. Mr. Garfield, as a favorite of President Roosevelt, was one of the first to urge Mr. Taft's nomination, and did much work in Ohio prior to the National Convention. Many expected that Mr. Garfield would be retained in the cabinet. President Taft apparently did not think well of such a plan. Mr. Garfield thinks very highly of Mr. Woodruff and, it appears, urged the President to leave in mind his special fitness for judicial work. This was done apparently without Mr. Woodruff's knowledge or seeking, but the President, all the same, bore the request in mind. Mr. Woodruff did not want to be "taken care of," and as a matter of fact had as good as closed a lease for a house here in town. But the President wanted to show his good will toward Mr. Garfield, which undoubtedly had much to do with the offer of the judgeship in Alaska and then in Hawaii to Mr. Woodruff.

The Department of Justice made considerable inquiry before bestowing the nomination. Mr. Garfield had paved the way by asking by cable whether there would be objection to Mr. Woodruff. On March 31, Governor Frear wrote a letter to the Attorney General, or which ultimately was referred to the Attorney General. He stated in that letter that he had reason to believe that there would be no opposition in Hawaii to the nomination of Mr. Woodruff. "If the administration desired" the nomination to be made. He added among other things that many of the leading lawyers of Hawaii saw no good reason why Mr. Woodruff should not be selected and that "the community would be satisfied."

It was stated at the White House offices today that the President was not "down on Hawaii." On the contrary, there is reason for believing that he has felt gratified at the course the representatives of the Territory have taken on numerous questions here at Washington. When the Philippine tariff bill was before Congress some three years ago, Mr. Taft, then Secretary of War, was very much put out at the opposition to that bill by Hawaiian interests. He said so in emphatic terms and declared that he could not see why Hawaii should play a dog-in-the-manger policy.

Hawaii Gratifies Taft.

Some months ago word was conveyed to him that Hawaii was not going to antagonize the plans the President had in mind, for admitting 300,000 tons of sugar free annually from the Philippines. And that word has been kept. While the Hawaiian sugar planters are known not to accept the President's view that the sugar industry in the Philippines can not become a menace to the sugar industry in the islands, there have been no protests from Hawaii. The opposition to the President's cherished plan for the admission of Philippine sugar this winter has come solely from the beet and cane growers on the mainland. Their opposition has been so strong that it is still possible that the 300,000-ton proposition may yet be thrown out of the tariff bill and the whole scheme for the new Philippine tariff may be postponed till later. That, however, is problematical and depends much upon

Senator Hale of Maine. But while the President may not have forgotten the former attitude of Hawaii as displeasing to him, he is gratified at the course pursued by Hawaiian interests here this winter and it is quite within the probabilities that he will show himself a good friend of the Territory during his administration.

The Coming Congressmen.

Mr. McClellan has started upon his arrangements for inviting members of Congress to visit Honolulu this summer. He is going with Representative Humphreys of Washington soon to invite Secretary of the Interior Ballinger to take the trip with the party. Mr. McClellan is also going to take up at the Postoffice Department the matter of the reappointment of Postmaster Pratt.

No Service on the Queen.

The mystery of the legal service upon Queen Liliuokalani in the suit for \$11,000 by Dr. Charles H. English of this city, on which suit judgment was rendered by the local courts, has been fathomed. The Queen insisted that she had never been served with notice of the suit, although the contrary appeared in the records of the case. There has been a deal of searching about the matter, and it has developed that on the morning of March 4, during the terrible blizzard, papers were thrust into the hands of Mr. Desha, who, with Jimmie Parker, was accompanying the Queen on an automobile ride. The Queen was bundled up to her eyes, because of the inclement weather, but wanted to see some of the inaugural parade. As they stepped outside the door of Delegate Kalaniana'ole's residence on Massachusetts avenue, young Desha was handed the paper with the remark that it was something for the Queen. He paid little attention to it; she apparently did not hear what was said. Desha took the paper inside and thrust it into the umbrella holder.

Whether that was a legal service remains to be determined. An attorney, W. C. Clephane, has been engaged to take charge of the case and believes he can persuade the court to set aside its judgment.

EXCHANGE FOR NEW HOMESTEADS

(Continued From Page One.)

over to the Maui Agricultural Company about twelve hundred acres of land which could not be taken up with success by the small farmer because of the absence of water. The tract can be used advantageously as cane land, however, because of the fact that the Maui Agricultural Company can irrigate it without great expense from its ditches in the vicinity.

Benefits for Labor.

H. P. Baldwin has been anxious to see the exchange of the lands accomplished, not only because of the benefits that will accrue through the acquisition of an area of land well adapted for sugar cane, but also because the settling of the new homesteads by a class of thrifty citizens will be of decided benefit to the plantation labor supply.

"The exchange of these lands, will mean much for the extension of the homestead system on Maui," said Land Commissioner Pratt yesterday. "The land that the government secures by the trade is of a quality that provides all the necessities of the small grower. The water supply is ample and the land can be utilized and cultivated without much expense."

The proposition to exchange the lands has been before the Governor for a period of about five months, and the relative value of the acreage and all the questions affecting the exchange have received careful consideration, and nothing remains to be done except the signing of the final papers.

Princess Kawanakoa arrived yesterday on the Monrovia after an absence on the mainland of several months. She will remain here some time, and plans to leave again for the mainland, taking her children with her.

Lack of a sufficient number of legal signatures to the initiative petitions providing for the issuance of \$1,500,000 bridge bonds will prevent the submission of these propositions to the voters of Portland, Or., at the June election.

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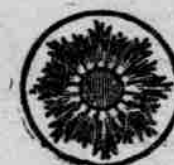
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